<center>**REMARKS**</center>

Claims 1, 2, 4, 13, 15, 21-23, 27, 31, 36, 37, 39, 40, and 42 have been amended. Claims 9, 19, 25, 35, and 38 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-8, 10-18, 20-24, 26-34, 36, 37, and 39-43 remain in the application for consideration. In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application.

§ 102 Rejections

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 13, 15-18, 20, 22-24, 26, 27, 29-34, 36, 37, and 39-43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by HP Blade Server BH Series Operating Guide, July 2002, Hewlett-Packard ("Blade").

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 5 and 14 stand rejected under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blade in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0191014 to Hsieh et al. ("Hsieh").

Claims 9-12, 19, 21, 25, 28, 35, and 38 stand rejected under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blade in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0124245 to Maddocks et al. ("Maddocks").

The Claims

Claim 1 has been amended, and as amended, recites a method, implemented in a device, the method comprising (added language appears in bold italics):

- obtaining a task sequence at the device that describes a set of one or more steps to be carried out in managing *multiple* additional devices *concurrently*;
- generating a job tree at the device representing the set of one or more steps, the set of one or more steps comprising at least one of:
  - o configuring firmware of the *multiple* additional devices;

o downloading an operating system to the *multiple* additional devices;

o rebooting the *multiple* additional devices; or

o configuring the operating system of the *multiple* additional devices; and

• sending one or more commands configured to carry out the set of one or more steps in accordance with the job tree.

Claim 1 stands rejected as being anticipated by Blade. Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite "obtaining a task sequence at the device that describes a set of one or more steps to be carried out in managing *multiple* additional devices *concurrently*". Support for this amendment can be found throughout Applicant's specification, and at least at Fig. 9 and the discussion thereof. For convenience, Fig. 9 is reproduced below:
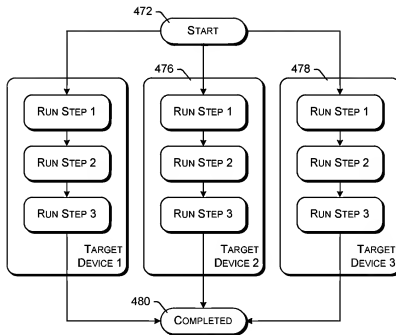

Fig. 9

Applicant submits that Blade does not teach or in any way suggest "managing *multiple* additional devices *concurrently*", as recited in claim 1 as amended.

In addition, Applicant notes that claim 9 has been canceled, but previously recited "the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the set of one or more steps described in the task sequence are to be carried out in managing a plurality of additional devices concurrently." In making out the rejection of claim 9, the Office admits that Blade does not anticipate claim 9, but argues that the subject matter of claim 9 is taught by Fig. 2 of Maddocks. Applicant notes that the Office has cited to U.S. Publication No. 2002/012425 to Maddocks, but that U.S. Publication No. 2002/012425 is actually named "*Maddux*" not "Maddocks". Applicant notes, however, that in the previous Office Action the Office cited to U.S. Patent No. 7,367,017 to Maddocks. Therefore, Applicant is unsure if the Office is referring to U.S. Patent No. 7,367,017 to Maddocks or U.S. Publication No. 2002/012425 to Maddux, in the rejection of claim 9.

Accordingly, Applicant has reviewed both Maddux and Maddocks and submits that the amendment of claim 1 overcomes a rejection based on either reference, as neither Maddux nor Maddocks teaches or suggests all of the elements of claim 1, as amended.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-8 and 10-12 depend from claim 1 and thus are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited features which, in combination with those recited in claim 1, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record.

Claim 13 has been amended, and as amended, recites one or more computer readable storage media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to (added language appears in bold italics):

- receive a user-defined task sequence;
- convert the user-defined task sequence into an ordered series of steps, the ordered series of steps comprising at least one of:
  - configuring firmware on *multiple* devices;
  - downloading an operating system to the *multiple* devices;
  - rebooting the *multiple* devices; or
  - configuring the operating system of the *multiple* devices; and
- send one or more commands configured to perform the series of steps in managing the *multiple* devices *concurrently* over a network in accordance with their order.

Claim 13 stands rejected as being anticipated by Blade. Applicant has amended claim 13 to recite "send one or more commands configured to perform the series of steps in managing the *multiple* devices *concurrently* over a network in accordance with their order". Support for this amendment can be found throughout Applicant's specification, and at least at Fig. 9 and the discussion thereof. Applicant submits that Blade does not teach or in any way suggest "send one or more commands configured to perform the series of steps in managing the *multiple* devices *concurrently* over a network in accordance with their order" as recited in claim 13 as amended. In addition, Applicant has reviewed both Maddux and Maddocks and submits that the amendment of claim 13 would obviate a rejection by either reference, as neither Maddux nor Maddocks teaches or suggests all of the elements of claim 13, as amended.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, claim 13 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 14-18, 20, and 21 depend from claim 13 and thus are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited features which, in combination with those recited in claim 13, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record.

Claim 22 has been amended, and as amended, recites a method implemented in a device, the method comprising (added language appears in bold italics):

- obtaining a user-defined task sequence at the device that describes an action to be carried out in managing *multiple* additional devices *concurrently*;
- converting, at the device, the user-defined task sequence to a set of one or more steps of a job to be carried out in managing the *multiple* additional devices, the set of one or more steps comprising at least one of:
  - o configuring firmware of the *multiple* additional devices;
  - o downloading an operating system to the *multiple* additional devices;
  - o rebooting the *multiple* additional devices; or
  - o configuring the operating system of the *multiple* additional devices; and
- sending one or more commands configured to carry out the one or more steps of the job.

Claim 22 stands rejected as being anticipated by Blade. Applicant has amended claim 22 to recite "obtaining a user-defined task sequence at the device that describes an action to be carried out in managing *multiple* additional devices *concurrently*". Support for this amendment can be found throughout Applicant's specification, and at least at Fig. 9 and the discussion thereof. Applicant submits that Blade does not teach or in any way suggest "obtaining a user-defined task sequence at the device that describes an action to be carried out in managing *multiple* additional devices *concurrently*" as recited in claim 22 as amended. In addition, Applicant has reviewed both Maddux and Maddocks and submits that the amendment of claim 22 would obviate a rejection by either reference, as neither Maddux nor Maddocks teaches or suggests all of the elements of claim 22, as amended.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, claim 22 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 23, 24, and 26 depend from claim 22 and thus are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited features which, in combination with those recited in claim 22, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record.

Claim 27 has been amended, and as amended, recites one or more computer readable storage media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to (added language appears in bold italics):

- obtain a user-selected task sequence;
- convert the user-selected task sequence into an ordered series of steps, the ordered series of steps comprising at least one of:
  - configuring firmware of *multiple* devices;
  - downloading an operating system to the *multiple* devices;
  - rebooting the *multiple* devices; or
  - configuring the operating system of the *multiple* devices; and
- send one or more commands configured to perform the series of steps in managing the *multiple* devices *concurrently* over a network in accordance with their order.

Claim 27 stands rejected as being anticipated by Blade. Applicant has amended claim 27 to recite "send one or more commands configured to perform the series of steps in managing the *multiple* devices *concurrently* over a network in accordance with their order". Support for this amendment can be found throughout Applicant's specification, and at least at Fig. 9 and the discussion thereof. Applicant submits that Blade does not teach or in any way suggest "send one or more commands configured to perform the series of steps in managing the *multiple* devices *concurrently* over a network in accordance with their order" as recited in claim 27 as amended. In addition, Applicant has reviewed both Maddux and Maddocks and submits that the amendment of claim 27 would obviate a rejection by either reference, as neither Maddux nor Maddocks teaches or suggests all of the elements of claim 27, as amended.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, claim 27 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 28-34 depend from claim 27 and thus are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited features which, in combination with those recited in claim 27, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record.

Claim 36 has been amended, and as amended, recites a system comprising (added language appears in bold italics):

- a processor; and
- a memory embodying instructions configured to:
  - obtain a task sequence that describes a set of one or more steps to be carried out in managing *multiple* devices *concurrently*;
  - generate a job representation of the set of one or more steps, the set of one or more steps comprising at least one of:
    - configuring firmware of the *multiple* devices;
    - downloading an operating system to the *multiple* devices;
    - rebooting the *multiple* devices; or
    - configuring the operating system of the *multiple* devices; and
  - send one or more commands configured to carry out the set of one or more steps in accordance with the job representation.

Claim 36 stands rejected as being anticipated by Blade. Applicant has amended claim 36 to recite "obtain a task sequence that describes a set of one or more steps to be carried out in managing *multiple* devices *concurrently*". Support for this amendment can be found throughout Applicant's specification, and at least at Fig. 9 and the discussion thereof. Applicant submits that Blade does not teach or in any way suggest "obtain a task sequence that describes a set of one or more steps to be carried out in managing *multiple* devices *concurrently*" as recited in claim 36 as amended. In addition, Applicant has reviewed both Maddux and

Maddocks and submits that the amendment of claim 36 would obviate a rejection by either reference, as neither Maddux nor Maddocks teaches or suggests all of the elements of claim 36, as amended.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, claim 36 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 37 depends from claim 36 and thus is allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. This claim is also allowable for its own recited features which, in combination with those recited in claim 36, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record.

Claim 39 has been amended, and as amended, recites a system comprising (added language appears in bold italics):

- a controller, configured to be implemented at least in part by at least one of one or more processors to obtain a task sequence that describes one or more steps to be performed on *multiple* remote devices *concurrently*, and to generate a job representation of the one or more steps, the one or more steps comprising at least one of:
  - o configuring firmware of the *multiple* remote devices;
  - o downloading an operating system to the *multiple* remote devices;
  - o rebooting the *multiple* remote devices; or
  - o configuring the operating system of the *multiple* remote devices; and
- a network boot service, configured to be implemented at least in part by at least one of the one or more processors to detect when the *multiple* remote devices *are* coupled to a network that the system is also coupled to, and to communicate with the controller to determine which of the steps of the job representation are to be carried out in response to the detection.

Claim 39 stands rejected as being anticipated by Blade. Applicant has amended claim 39 to recite "obtain a task sequence that describes one or more steps to be performed on *multiple* remote devices *concurrently*". Support for this amendment can be found throughout Applicant's specification, and at least at Fig. 9 and the discussion thereof. Applicant submits that Blade does not teach or in

any way suggest "obtain a task sequence that describes one or more steps to be performed on *multiple* remote device*s concurrently*" as recited in claim 39 as amended. In addition, Applicant has reviewed both Maddux and Maddocks and submits that the amendment of claim 39 would obviate a rejection by either reference, as neither Maddux nor Maddocks teaches or suggests all of the elements of claim 39, as amended.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, claim 39 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 40-43 depend from claim 39 and thus are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited features which, in combination with those recited in claim 39, are neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record.

Conclusion

All of the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowability. If the Office's next anticipated action is to be anything other than issuance of a Notice of Allowability, Applicant respectfully requests a telephone call for the purpose of scheduling an interview.

Respectfully Submitted,

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